

William B. Bradbury Collection

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress



Music Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2004

**Finding Aid encoded by Library of Congress Music
Division, 2004**

2004-08-10 converted from EAD 1.0 to EAD 2002

Collection Summary

Title: William B. Bradbury collection

Span Dates: 1846-1928

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1847-1862)

Call No.: ML31.B7

Creator: Bradbury, William B. (William Batchelder), 1816-1868.

Size: 1 linear ft.; 3 boxes; ca. 40 items

Repository: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Bradbury's secular music is represented by published vocal scores, some in photocopy, and probable holograph of Song of the South. Contains an album compiled by Bradbury in Europe (1847-1849) of autograph musical sketches by Franz Abt, Niels Gade, Joseph Joachim, Jenny Lind, Albert Lortzing, Giacomo Meyerbeer, Ignaz Moscheles, Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann, Louis Spohr, Richard Wagner, and others; sketches by Felix Mendelssohn, Walter Damrosch, and Ignace Paderewski added later. Photographs, clippings, printed and ms. music by other composers, correspondence, Bradbury's baton, etc. also are included.

Language: Collection material in English

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by personal names, subjects, related names, and listed alphabetically therein.

Personal Names

Abt, Franz, 1819-1885--Autographs.
Bradbury, William B. (William Batchelder), 1816-1868--Correspondence.
Bradbury, William B. (William Batchelder), 1816-1868.
Bradbury, William B. (William Batchelder), 1816-1868.
Damrosch, Walter, 1862-1950--Autographs.
Gade, Niels W. (Niels Wilhelm), 1817-1890--Autographs.
Joachim, Joseph, 1831-1907--Autographs.
Lind, Jenny, 1820-1887--Autographs.
Lortzing, Albert, 1801-1851--Autographs.
Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Felix, 1809-1847--Autographs.
Meyerbeer, Giacomo, 1791-1864--Autographs.
Moscheles, Ignaz, 1794-1870--Autographs.
Paderewski, Ignace Jan, 1860-1941--Autographs.
Schumann, Clara, 1819-1896--Autographs.
Schumann, Robert, 1810-1856--Autographs.
Spohr, Louis, 1784-1859--Autographs.
Wagner, Richard, 1813-1883--Autographs.

Subjects

Musical sketches.
Musicians--Autographs.
Musicians--Correspondence.

Related Names

Bradbury, William B. (William Batchelder), 1816-1868. Song of the south.

Administrative Information

Provenance

Donated by Joan M. Undeland, the composer's great great granddaughter, 1976.

Additional materials donated by Joan M. Undeland, the composer's great great granddaughter, 2000.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The William B. Bradbury Collection was processed in 1992/2000 by Robert Saladini with assistance from Gail A. Miller and Michele Millington. The original finding aid was prepared with Corel WordPerfect 8. In 2004 the William B. Bradbury Collection finding aid was coded for EAD format by Michael A. Ferrando.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright on the materials of the William B. Bradbury collection is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Restrictions

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: container number, the William B. Bradbury collection, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Sketch

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Event</i> |
|----------------|--|
| 1816 October 6 | Born William Batchelder Bradbury in York, Maine |
| 1830 | Family moves to Boston Bradbury studies with Sumner Hill Attends Lowell Mason's Boston Academy of Music Sings in Mason's Boudoin Street Church Choir |
| 1830s | Works as an organist and teacher |
| 1840 | Becomes music director of the First Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York |
| 1840s | Introduces the teaching of singing into New York City public schools |
| 1841 | Becomes music director of Baptist Tabernacle of New York; begins to teach children's singing in a similar style to that of Mason's school in Boston <i>The Young Choir</i> (compiled with Thomas Hastings) is published |
| 1847-49 | Studies piano, singing, harmony, and composition in Europe |
| 1849 | Returns to United States; continues to teach, compose, and compile collections of hymns |
| 1854 | Forms Bradbury Piano Company with his brother, Edward G. Bradbury, and Light and Newton, the German piano manufacturers |
| 1858 | Music collection, <i>The Jubilee</i> , is published, selling over 200,000 copies |
| 1861 | Music collection, <i>The Golden Chain</i> , is published, selling 2,000,000 copies |
| 1867 | Music collection, <i>Fresh Laurels</i> , is published, selling 1,200,000 copies |
| 1868 Jan. 7 | Dies in Montclair, New Jersey |

Scope and Content Note

The William B. Bradbury Collection was given to the Library of Congress in 1976 and 2000 by Joan M. Undeland, Bradbury's great-great-granddaughter. These materials complemented a number of Bradbury's holograph and first-edition printed musical scores that were given to the Library of Congress by Hubert P. Main and others earlier in the 20th century. Notable in the collection is an autograph musical sketchbook that Bradbury compiled between 1847 and 1849 when he was studying in Europe. This sketchbook contains short musical sketches by some of Bradbury's contemporaries, including Franz Abt, Niels Gade, Joseph Joachim, Jenny Lind, Albert Lorzing, Giacomo Meyerbeer, Ignaz Moscheles, Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann, Louis Spohr, Marianne Spohr, Richard Wagner, and others. Sketches by Felix Mendelssohn, Walter Damrosch, Ignaz Paderewski and Felix Mendelssohn were added later. The album also contains two non-musical entries, a watercolor sketch by Susette Hauptmann, and a letter to Bradbury from Felix Mendelssohn that C. F. Becker added to the album in 1849.

All of the compositions by Bradbury in the collection are secular, even though he composed over 800 hymn-tunes. One of these works, Bradbury's *Song of the south*, may be in his own hand.

An unpublished biography entitled "William B. Bradbury, His Life and Times" that was written by his granddaughter, Elma Marvin, and a biographical letter written in 1928 by Bradbury's son are also found in the collection. A letterpress book in the collection contains correspondence relative to Bradbury's music publications during the early 1860s.

Photographs in the collection include those of Bradbury, his wife, Ada Esther Fessender Bradbury, and his piano, which was manufactured by his company, Light, Newton & Bradbury.

The status of the literary rights of the unpublished materials in the William B. Bradbury Collection is unknown.

Organization of the William B. Bradbury collection

The William B. Bradbury collection is organized in 7 series:

- Biographical materials
- Music
- Letterpress book
- Album
- Photographs
- Clippings
- Miscellaneous

Arrangement of the William B. Bradbury collection

The William B. Bradbury collection is arranged in 7 series. Each series is arranged by alphabetically, chronologically, or by genre.

Description of Series

| <i>Container</i> | <i>Series</i> |
|-------------------------|--|
| BOX 2 | <u>BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIALS</u> The Biographical Materials series consists of writings about William B. Bradbury, his family, and his music. Arrangement is alphabetical by title or subject. |
| BOX 1 BOX 3 | <u>MUSIC</u> The Music series is represented by three subseries: Bradbury as Composer; Bradbury as Hymn Writer; Other Composers and Arrangers. The series consists of printed and holograph manuscripts. Arrangement is alphabetical by composer and title. |
| BOX 1 BOX 2 | <u>LETTERPRESS BOOK, Feb. 1861-July 1862</u> The Letterpress Book series consists primarily of correspondence relative to Bradbury's music publications during the early 1860s. Arrangement is chronological by date. |
| BOX 1 | <u>ALBUM</u> The Album series consists of one bound volume containing holograph music sketches, one letter, and signatures of 19th-century composers. Arrangement is by format. |
| BOX 2 | <u>PHOTOGRAPHS</u> The Photographs series consists of prints of Bradbury, his wife, Ada Esther Fessender Bradbury, and his piano. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject. |
| BOX 2 | <u>CLIPPINGS, 1962</u> The Clippings series consists of newspaper and magazine articles referring to Bradbury's piano. Arrangement is chronological by date. |
| BOX 1 BOX 2 BOX 3 | <u>MISCELLANEOUS</u> The Miscellaneous series consists of artifacts and music related materials of various formats. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject. |

Container List

| <i>Container</i> | <i>Contents</i> |
|------------------------------|--|
| BOX 2 | BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIALS The Biographical Materials series consists of writings about William B. Bradbury, his family, and his music. Arrangement is alphabetical by title or subject. |
| BOX 2 | Anonymous. Family Recollections. |
| BOX 2 | Anonymous. "Notes on a Musical Autograph Collection once Owned by William Batchelder Bradbury." |
| BOX 2 | Bradbury, William L. to [?]. Letter dated Sept. 28, 1928. |
| BOX 2 | Marvin, Elma. "William B. Bradbury: his life and times." Unpublished biography, [photocopy] |
| BOX 3 | William B. Bradbury, his life and times and some family history, unpublished biography, compiled by Elma Marvin |
| BOX 1 BOX 3 | MUSIC The Music series is represented by three subseries: Bradbury as Composer; Brabury as Hymn Writer; Other Composers and Arrangers. The series consists of printed and holograph manuscripts. Arrangment is alphabetical by composer and title. Bradbury as Composer |
| BOX 3 | Esther, the beautiful queen, a cantata or short oratorio. New York: Mason Brothers, 1856. |
| BOX 1 | Flag of our union, The. New York: Firth, Pond, & Co., 1861. Printed piano-vocal score Words by George P. Morris, Esq. "New and Correct Edition" |
| BOX 1 | Sing to me, mother. New York: C. M. Tremaine, 1867. Printed piano-vocal score "To Mrs. Frank Dodge" |
| BOX 1 | Song of the south. Holograph vocal score SATB |
| BOX 1 | "Tea Party" song, A. New York: Newman & Ivison, 1852. Photocopy of printed vocal score ; SATB |

MUSIC

Container

Contents

- BOX 1** There's a sound among the forest trees. New York: [s.n.], 1864.
 Printed piano-vocal score
 Words by Fanny Crosby
- BOX 1** Great convention, or woman's rights, The. New York: Newman & Ivison, 1852.
 Photocopy of printed vocal score ; SATB
 Arranged from a celebrated German people's song "Words written for this Work by a
 Lady"
- BOX 1** Jenny Lind mania, The. New York: Newman & Ivison, 1852.
 Photocopy of printed vocal score ; SATB
 Arranged from a popular melody
 Words by W. H. C. West
- BOX 1** Star-spangled banner, The. [S.l.]: Bigelow & Main, 1870.
 Photocopy of printed vocal score ; SATB
- BOX 3** **Bradbury as hymn writer**
- BOX 3** The Bradbury Trio : comprising New Golden Chain, New Golden Shower, and New Golden
Censer. New York : Biglow and Main, 1870.
- BOX 3** Bright jewels for the Sunday school ; a new collection of Sunday school songs written
expressly for this work ; many of which are the latest compositions of William B. Bradbury /
Rob't Lowry ; editor ; assisted by Wm. F. Sherwin and Chester G. Allen. New York: Biglow &
Main, 1869.
 Also published by Ivison, Phinney, Blakeman & Co.
- BOX 3** Metropolitan Glee Book; or, Alpine Glee Singer, volume second. A new collection of glee
choruses, opera choruses, and four-part songs, from the most popular authors, to which is
added the most favorite choruses from Handel's oratorio of the Messiah / by William B.
Bradbury. New York: Newman and Ivison, 1852.
- BOX 3** **Other Composers and Arrangers**
- BOX 3** **BY COMPOSER**
- Dyer, S. O.**
- BOX 3** Spider and the fly, The. New York: C. H. Holt, 1847.
 Printed piano-vocal score ; SATB
 Words by Jesse Hutchinson, Jr.
- Mendelssohn, Felix**
- BOX 3** [Three motets, op. 69].
 Ms. vocal score ; SATB
 Includes:
 • No. 1, *Lord, now lettest Thou thy Servant*
 • No. 2, *O be joyful in the Lord*
 • No. 3, *My Soul doth magnify the Lord*

MUSIC

Container

Contents

BOX 3 [Volkslied]. Berlin: Schlesinger, n.d..
Printed piano-vocal score ; duet
Includes: "Wasserfahrt," No. 3
Pl. S. 2091 (3)

Mozart, W. A.

BOX 3 Eheliche gute Nacht. Leipzig: Breitkopf, n.d..
Printed piano-vocal score

Schubert, Franz

BOX 3 [Du bist die Ruh]. Boston: George P. Reed & Co., n.d..
Printed piano-vocal score
"Thou Art the Rest," in *Gems of German Songs*
J. S. Dwight, trans.

Wyman, B. and G. P. Newell

BOX 3 [Library of sacred music]. New York: Wyman and Newell, 1846.
Organ-vocal score ; SATB
Printed anthology of sacred choral music

BOX 3 BY TITLE

BOX 3 Hymns and songs of praise [3 volumes]. New York: Anson D. F. Randolph and Company, 1874.

BOX 3 Gospel Hymns, Consolidated. New York: Biglow and Main, 1883.

BOX 3 Northfield Hymnal. Chicago: Biglow and Main, 1904.

BOX 1 LETTERPRESS BOOK, Feb. 1861-July 1862

BOX 2

The Letterpress Book series consists primarily of correspondence relative to Bradbury's music publications during the early 1860s.
Arrangement is chronological by date.

BOX 1 Bound holograph letterpress book with business correspondence, Feb. 1861-July 1862

BOX 2 Pencil transcriptions of letterpress book in steno notebooks. Typed transcription of six letters from letterpress book

BOX 1 ALBUM

The Album series consists of one bound volume containing holograph music sketches, one letter, and signatures of 19th-century composers.
Arrangement is by format.

ALBUM

Container

Contents

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| BOX 1 | Album containing holograph music sketches, one letter, and signatures of 19th-century composers and others; includes autographs of: Franz Abt, C. F. Becker, Ferdinand Böhme, Walter Damrosch, Ferdinand David, Niels W. Gade, Greissiger, Susette Hauptmann, Hermann Huegeli, Joseph Joachim, C. Klingemann, Hermann Langer, Jenny Lind, Albert Lortzing, F. Mendel, Giacomo Meyerbeer, Ignaz Moscheles, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, A. F. Riccius, E. Friedr. Richter, Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann, J. Vogt, Richard Wagner, Ernst Ferdinand Wenzel, Carl Zöllner, and unidentified others. Typed transcription of a letter from Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy to Bradbury |
| BOX 2 | PHOTOGRAPHS The Photographs series consists of prints of Bradbury, his wife, Ada Esther Fessender Bradbury, and his piano. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject. |
| BOX 2 | Photographs of William Bradbury, his wife, Ada Esther Fessender Bradbury, and his piano Note: One oversize photoprint located in container labeled: Folio 1. |
| BOX 2 | CLIPPINGS, 1962 The Clippings series consists of newspaper and magazine articles referring to Bradbury's piano. Arrangement is chronological by date. |
| BOX 1 | Newspaper and magazine articles referring to Bradbury's piano |
| BOX 1 BOX 2 BOX 3 | MISCELLANEOUS The Miscellaneous series consists of artifacts and music related materials of various formats. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject. |
| BOX 1 | William B. Bradbury's baton |
| BOX 2 | Letter to the editors of <i>The Evening Post</i> by P. T. Barnum referring to expenses paid to Jenny Lind, 1871. Typed from the newspaper clipping. |
| BOX 2 | Adams, John S. <i>5000 Musical Terms: Complete Dictionary</i> . Boston: Oliver Ditson, [1851] |
| BOX 3 | Assorted opera librettos |
| BOX 3 | Program, Esther, the Beautiful Queen, Riverside Polytechnic High School, Riverside, CA, 1930 |